

GERMANOLOGY UNLOCKED



German Names 101: Everything You Should Know

Use Your Webinar Discount on Reading the Old German Handwriting + German for Genealogist Courses – This Week Only:

<https://bit.ly/germannamesdiscount>

Coupon Code: NAME15

1. List of Names Written in Handwriting
 - a. BYU Link: <https://bit.ly/namesingermanscript>
2. Rufname
 - a. Name a person was called
 - b. Underlined in text
3. Straight Line
 - a. Found over a lowercase “n” or “m”
 - b. Doubles the letter
 - i. “Ana” with a line over “n” > “Anna”
4. Nicknames
 - a. Often uses second part of name
 - i. “Johann” > “Hans”
 - ii. “Magdalena” > “Lena”
5. Diminutive (“Cutesy”) Suffixes
 - a. -chen
 - b. -lein
 - c. -l, -el, -erl
 - d. Resi > Resile**in**
 - e. Tochter > Tö**chterlein**
6. Surname Origins
 - a. Patronymic
 - i. Father’s name + variation of “son”
 - b. Geographic
 - i. Landmarks, regions, etc.
 - c. Descriptive
 - i. Height, hair color, personality traits, etc.
 - d. Occupational
 - i. Common endings “-er”, “-macher”, “-mann”

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- e. Hofnamen (Farm names)
 - i. https://bit.ly/germanfarmnames_legacytree
- 7. Female Suffix
 - a. “-in”
 - i. “Weber” > “Weberin”
- 8. Spelling Variations
 - a. t-d
 - b. k-g
 - c. b-p
 - d. f-v
 - e. More spelling information: <https://germanologyunlocked.com/think-like-german-spelling-variations-genealogy-documents/>
- 9. Best Name Distribution Websites
 - a. <https://forebears.io/surnames>
 - b. <https://www.namespedia.com/>
 - c. <https://geogen.stoepel.net/>
 - d. Austria: <https://namenskarten.lima-city.at/>
 - e. Switzerland:
 - i. <https://www.namenskarten.eu/>
 - ii. <https://interaktiv.tagesanzeiger.ch/newsnetz/namenkarte/>

Need more help? Contact or follow me here:

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YouTube: [@germanologyunlocked](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgermanologyunlocked)

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Additional Resources for Your German Genealogy Journey:

- Additional Examples of Handwritten German Names:
<https://germanologyunlocked.com/whats-name-10-popular-boys-girls-names-german-genealogy-handwritten-examples/>
- Tips and Tricks of Deciphering German Handwriting:
<https://germanologyunlocked.com/product/tips-tricks-deciphering-german-handwriting/>
- The Magic of German Church Records: Finding the Key to Your Ancestor's Past:
<https://germanologyunlocked.com/product/the-magic-of-german-church-records-finding-the-key-to-your-ancestors-past/>
- Spelling Changes:
[https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/The Dialect Basis of Spelling Variation in German Surnames](https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/The_Dialect_Basis_of_Spelling_Variation_in_German_Surnames)
- Location-Based Names:
<http://www.mstonegenealogy.org/dialectical.html>